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Date of deferred publication of the search report: 08.11.89 Bulletin 89/45 7) Applicant: MERCK & CO. INC. 126, East Lincoln Avenue P.O. Box 2000 Rahway New Jersey 07065-0900(US)

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Plasmid containing an eucaryotic secretory signal sequence and process for secreting encoded proteins.

(5) A synthetic gene encoding an exogenous protein has been assembled and inserted into a eucaryotic secretion expression vector containing cytomegalovirus immediate early (CMV-IE) transcriptional regulatory region, any one of a variety of mammalian secretory signal peptides and a portion of the bovine growth hormone gene encoding transcription termination sequences. The recombinant plasmid encodes the amino acid for the fusion protein that contains the mammalian secretory signal expeptide and the amino acids of the protein to be secreted. This plasmid, when transiently introduced into cultured mammalian fibroblasts, directs the synthesis of the fusion protein, the subsequent proteolytic removal of the secretory signal peptide and the secretion of the protein into the culture media. The recombinant proteins produced by these cells are biologically active.

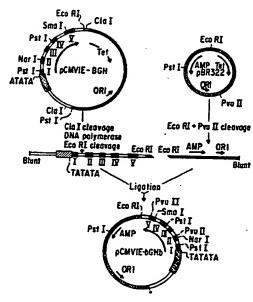


FIG. 1

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

	DOCUMENTS COM	SIDEBED TO BE SEE	_		7				848
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*	Whole article	*	1-1	LO					
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Place of search Date of completion of the search						Exem			
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A: technological background
O: non-written disclosure
P: intermediate document

&: member of the same patent family, corresponding document



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ine preser	nt European patent application comonsed at the time of filling more than ten claims.
	All claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
	Only part of the claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search
	the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid.
_	namely claims:
- 🗆	No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.
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X LA	CK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
The Search	Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of
•	d relates to several inventions or groups of inventions,
namely:	laime 1-0
_	laims 1-9: An expression/secretion plasmid
2. c	laim 10: The human insulin-like growth factor I gene
	gene 1 gene
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垃	All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
	Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search
	report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid.
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